Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184233 TOSEC 190144

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184233 TOSEC 190144

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE JUL 25, 1976
FROM BEIRUT

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6595

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AEMR, PFOR, LE, US
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH ABU JAAFAR, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS, PLO AT 1030 ON JULY 25

REF: BEIRUT 6590

1. FOLLOWING IS MEMCON OF MEETING TODAY BETWEEN RSO AND PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO DISCUSS SECURITY ARRANGE-MENTS FOR THE EVACUATIONN BY BOAT FROM BAIN MILITAIRE ON JULY 27. MAJOR AHMED (FATAH) ATTENDED THE MEETING AND, AS SUSPECTED, HE WILL BE IN CHARGE OF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EVACUATION. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE COVERED:
A. COL. HUNT, MILITARY ATTACHE, WILL BE PROVIDED LIAISON IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 184233 TOSEC 190144

ORDER TO BEGIN RADIO CONTACT WITH EVACUATION SHIPS FROM BAIN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

MILITAIRE AT 0530. THE PLO ALSO AUTHORIZED THE USE OF RADIOS
BETWEEN BAIN MILITAIRE, THE HOTEL AND THE EMBASSY.
ZB. THE PLO WILL UNDERTAKE TO INFORM ALL FACTIONS AND
FACTIONAL LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA CONCERNED ALONG THE CORNICHE
BY HAND-CARRIED NOTIFICATION WHICH THESE LEADERS ARE EXPECTED
TO SIGN. THIS NOTIFICATION, WHEN SIGNED, WILL BE AN AGREEMENT
BY THESE FACTION LEADERS NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE EVACUATION.
C. THE PLO WILL EVACUATE ALL MILITARY POSITIONS WITHIN THIS
AREA OR, IN THE CASE OF THOSE POSITIIONS WHICH CANNOT BE
EVACUATED, THEY WILL STATION PLO SOLDIERS TO PROVIDE SECURITY.
D. THE PPLO WILL TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO INFORM THE LAA
TANK LOCATED IP FRONT OF THE CHANCERY AND THE SECOND TANK
POSITIONED AT THE AUB TOWER TO INSURE THAT THEY WILL NOT INTERFERE.
E. THE PLO HAS NO PROBLEM WITH MORE THAN ONE BOAT.
HOWEVER, THEY DID STRESS THEIR DESIRE THAT TTE BOATS MOVE IN
AND OUT QUICKLY AND STRESSED THEIR DESIRE FOR SPEED IN ALL
PHASES OF THE OPERATION.
F. THE PLO HAS REQUESTED THAT ALL EMBASSY LABORERS WHO
WILL WORK WITHIN THE BAIN MILITAIRE AREA DISPLAY UPON THEIR
PERSON SOME TYPE OF INDENTIFICATION, SUCH AS AN ARMBAND OR
BADGE, AND THAT THE PLO BE GIVEN A SAMPLE OF THIS BADGE
BEFOREHAND..
G. THE PLO HAS ALSO REQUESTED THAT SOME FORM OF MARKING
BE APPLIED TO ALL LUGGAGE BEING LOADED ON BOARRD THE SHIP.
SPECIFICALLY, THEY WISH TO INSURE FOR SECURITY REASONS THAT
NO UNAUTHORIZED BAGGAGE IS PUT UPON THE SHIP. THEY FURTHER
REQUEST THAT THEY BE GIVEN A SAMPLE OF THIS LUGGAGE IDENTIFICATION
BEFOREHAND.
H. THE PLO ANTICIPATES NO DIFFICULTY IN HAVING FSO LANE
ARRIVE ON THE FIRST BOAT. THEY WILL UNDERTAKE TO NOTIFY THE
LEBANESE AUTHORITIES AND INSURE THAT A LEBBANESE IMMIGRATION
OFFICIAL IS ON HAND TO PROVIDE LANE WITH A VISA AT DOCKSIDE.
I. CONCERNING THE ATO SUPPLIES WHICH MAY BE INCLUDED ON
THE FIRST BOAT, THE PLO WILL INSURE THAT LEBANESE CUSTOMS
OFFICIALS ARE ON HAND TO PROCESS THIS MATERIAL INTO LEBANOON.
THEY HAVE REQUESTED THAT THE FULL DETAILS REGARDING THE
NUMBER OF PACKAGES, WEIGHT AND DESCRIPTION OF THIS MATERIAL
BE PROVIDED TO THEM BY 1000 ON JULY 26.
J. THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING THE PRESS WERE DISCUSSED
AND IT WAS AGREED THAT A PREDESSIGNATED POINT WOULD BE SELECTED
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PAGE 03 STATE 184233 TOSEC 190144

TO PROVIDE A SECURE LOCATION FOR BOTH THE WRITING AND PHOTO
PRESS. THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF WHERE THE PRESS POINT WOULD BE
LOCATED WILL BE DISCUSSED DURING THE 1000 MONDAY MEETING.
PAO ROSS WILL PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR THIS SUBJECT.
K. THE PLO WILL BEGIN TO SECURE THE EVACUATION AREA AT
1500 ON SUNDAY, JULY 25.
L. THE PLO QUESTIONED WHETHER THE EMBASSY HAD A DOCTOR
ON ITS STAFF. WHEN I REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE, THEY STATED THEY

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

WOULD PROVIDE A DOCTOR AND AMBULANCE FOR ANY EMERGENCY
MEDICAL CARE REQUIRED.
M. SUMMARY: THE PLO SEEMED TO HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH
ANY OF THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED AND THE ONLY POINT THAT THEY
REPEATEDLY STRESSED WAS THAT ALL OPERATIONS BE CONDUCTED AS
RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. IT IS THEIR HOPE THAT THE ENTIRE OPERATION
CAN BE COMPLETED IN TWO HOURS FROM THE TIME OF THE FIRST BOAT'S
LANDING AT 0900. A MEETING TOMORROW AT 1000 WAS AGREED UPON
TO DISCUSS ANY FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE EVACUATION.

2. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS THIS MESSAGE TO CONCERNED
MILITARY COMMANDS.
SEELYE UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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